



Minutes

City Council's Neighborhood Quality of Life, Public Safety, & Parks and Recreation Committee

February 13, 2007

Minutes of the City Council's Neighborhood Quality of Life, Public Safety, & Parks and Recreation Committee held on Tuesday, February 13, 2007, 3:30 p.m., at the Tempe City Hall, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Member Present:

Councilmember Ben Arredondo, Chair
Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian

City Staff Present:

Mary Anders, PD Mgmt Asst
Neil Calfee, Deputy Comm Dev Mgr
Kate Hanley, TCC Exec Dir
Shelley Hearn, Comm Rel Mgr
Dave Heck, Deputy IT Mgr
Ted Hoffman, Deputy IT Mgr
Jan Hort, City Clerk
Eric Iwersen, Sr Planner, Transportation
Cliff Jones, Fire Chief
Gene Obis, IT Mgr
John Osgood, Deputy Pub Wrks Mgr
Michael Reichling, Fire Inspector
Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Mgr
Tom Ryff, Police Chief
Marc Scott, Asst Fire Chief
Shelley Seyler, Traffic Engineer
Michael Spencer, Sr Code Insp Specialist
Elizabeth Thomas, Neighborhood Pgm Spec
Sam Thompson, Deputy Mgr Parks
Brenda VanAmburg, Police Commander

Guests Present:

Jonathan Collen, ASU
William Hermann, AZ Republic
Joe Pospicil, Citizen
Stephanie Salazar, ASU

Councilmember Ben Arredondo called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 –Arizona State University Community Outreach and
Agenda Item 2 –Arizona State University Sanctions for Off Campus Behavior

Stephanie Salazar summarized the ASU community outreach program.

- Creation of Center for Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services.

- Programs and services will be designed to engage off-campus students and commuting students more fully with services provided.
- Strives to educate students about off-campus behavior, civic engagement, and being a good neighbor.
- She will act as a liaison with the City.
- Low level issues will be addressed and resolved.
- The committee can contact her for specific issues and she will work with the individuals involved.
- A safety and compliance hot line has been created with the data tracked.

Councilmember Arredondo added that Ms. Salazar is going out into the neighborhoods and suggested that staff put her name and the phone numbers on our Neighborhood Services brochures and flyers. ASU has made a commitment to have freshmen and sophomores live on campus and are already building some dorms, so it is taking shape. Ms. Salazar will be the “go-to” person.

DIRECTION: Staff to add the ASU contact information to future copies of the neighborhood cards and flyers.

Agenda Item 3 –Loud Party Enforcement Update 02/13/07

Police Chief Tom Ryff summarized that loud parties are a great concern and several years ago a comprehensive loud party ordinance was developed. There has been marked success and it has resulted in positive results and a reduction in calls.

Mary Anders summarized:

- Significant decrease in calls for service with a 7.2% decrease in 2005, and a 7.3% decrease in 2006. Since the ordinance change, there has been an 11% total decrease in calls for service.
- Calls for service show a seasonal pattern, with calls corresponding to the academic semester.
- In 2006, the majority (52%) of the calls for service occurred in locations north of Broadway and the remainder occurred in locations south of Broadway.
- In 2006, party notifications represented 19% of the primary dispositions for the party-related calls for service.
- 1,932 citizens participated in the 2006 annual Police citizens survey, and 59% indicated they were aware of the loud party ordinance, and 54% thought that enforcement of the ordinance was effective in reducing loud parties.

Brenda VanAmburg added that the Crime Prevention Unit has been able to contact the party hosts the next day. They have also gone to owners of property where tenants have just been arrested or evicted, and have had 100% compliance. They are seeing a reduction in these calls.

Councilmember Arredondo suggested that Police staff attend every game or event, and hand out a sheet stating statistically what’s good about living in Tempe and what is being reduced. On the back side, maybe show why some facts reported in the newspapers might be

incomplete. For example, ASU has 60,000 students, and if they report 10 bicycles stolen, the crime rate goes up. Some of our neighboring cities don't have university issues.

Councilmember Arredondo added that Chief Ryff needs to explain to Council what about his tenure will be different, what will be the same, and why. He further added that the mounted patrol units come out at parade time, but they need to be utilized in other ways.

Chief Ryff noted that saddle time will be increased. The horses were used originally for parks and then were moved on to Mill Avenue. The department goal is to get them back to the parks and on Mill Avenue for other than special events.

Councilmember Shekerjian noted that the community needs to know the good things that the Police Department is doing. We are on the cusp of a lot of change in Tempe. It is important to continue to communicate to our residents that even though we have all this economic development focus, we haven't lost sight of our neighborhoods. These numbers prove that we haven't lost sight.

Councilmember Arredondo further added that Tempe is also providing police officers to serve at the local junior high and high schools free of charge. He suggested that Chief Ryff return with a presentation on the distinct things that Tempe does differently from other cities.

DIRECTION: Chief Ryff to return to Committee with a presentation on some of the good things the Police Department does.

Agenda Item 4 – Update on Citizen Emergency Response Teams

Fire Chief Cliff Jones summarized that the Citizen Emergency Response Teams (CERT) was a concept pioneered by Los Angeles in 1994 in the interest of better preparing Los Angeles for earthquakes. Within a short time, it became a national model, and Tempe now has its own CERT program.

Michael Reichling, Fire Inspector, summarized that there are several volunteer organizations with whom resources are shared.

- The CERT program was developed in a format that follows the national model and a number of people locally and nationally have been through the program.
- Next month, the program (Campus CERT) will be brought to ASU.
- The CERT program teaches people about disaster-preparedness – fires, earthquakes, floods, fire safety, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, teamwork organization, disaster psychology, terrorism, animal rescue, teen search.
- Focus is to get neighbors to work together as a team.
- Bottom line is to teach people to be self-sufficient for the first 72 hours after a disaster.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked if some of the training could be incorporated on GAIN night.

Mr. Reichling responded that demonstrations could be done but that the comprehensive training takes days.

Councilmember Arredondo noted that a bond was passed stating we need another fire station down south and he asked Chief Jones to provide a future update on the progress of this station.

DIRECTION:

- Staff to provide a CERT update to Councilmember Shekerjian's Education and Technology Advancement Committee to highlight what they will be doing at the high school levels, as well as how citizens can attend.
- Staff to develop, with the Neighborhoods Services staff and the Police Department, a one-page flyer that shows what we can do and what programs we have.
- Staff was directed to provide CERT demonstrations on GAIN night on public safety.
- Chief Jones to provide a future update on the progress of the proposed fire station in South Tempe.

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed 800MHZ Sites in Tempe 1002

Gene Obis summarized that since 2006, Tempe has been in partnership with Phoenix and Mesa to participate in the regional multi-jurisdictional public safety interoperable radio system. This system will enable the public safety departments to have seamless communication in the event of an emergency situation. A decision point has been reached relative to the placement of antenna structures. There has been a desire to get the antenna array off of Hayden Butte and this is one step toward that goal.

Dave Heck summarized that the following sites have been identified to provide better coverage than exists today.

- Existing site at Police Substation at Hardy would continue to be used, although it will require additional equipment and a possible addition to the building.
- Existing site at Bell Butte is not currently used for 800MHZ, but the site will be used with installation of an antenna array and an addition to the structure. It is owned by Maricopa County and staff is attempting to either extend the lease or purchase.
- Fire Training/APS Site does not have any tower structure on the City-owned portion of the property. A building on the Fire Training property and a mono-pole structure would be erected.
- North Water Tank Site in Papago Park would require a structure and a mono-pole.

Mr. Heck added that these sites would be required to get the desired coverage pattern.

Councilmember Arredondo thanked staff for their vision.

Agenda Item 6 – Discussion of Code Enforcement in Trailer Parks 1003

This item was pulled.

Agenda Item 7 – Update on the Western Canal Path 1004

Eric Iwersen presented a map of the project site. He summarized that the concept is to continue the multi-use path system which has been built over the last ten years.

- This is the largest single project undertaken, a 6-mile segment. Previous segments have typically been 1-mile increments.

- Typically it has been done in 1-mile segments, but this is a 6-mile segment.
- This path follows the Western Canal from the 101 on the east to I-10 on the west and will connect to the Arizona Mills Mall. Chandler is doing a project to take it from the 101 into Chandler.
- New safety features include the HAWK (High-intensity Activated crossWalk) which will be used at the Rural and McClintock locations. This involves a different configuration of a signal which allows the pedestrian to cross, but it doesn't create as much back-up as a regular signal.
- The 60% plans are complete and the 90% plans will be ready in June. Construction should start late summer or early fall of this year, with a construction period of a year.

Councilmember Arredondo asked about the concept involving a string of lights in the street.

Shelley Seyler responded that staff looked at compliance with technology, such as the in-pavement flashing lights. Over time, the compliance rate for the in-pavement flashers was not significant enough to move ahead with that technology. The HAWK has a great compliance rate and is a regulatory device, whereas the in-pavement flashers are not regulatory.

Councilmember Arredondo asked staff to be sure to plan a groundbreaking ceremony.

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to provide an update of the HAWK system at the April meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Neighborhood Traffic Management Program

6/13 - 10-13

Shelley Seyler summarized:

- Started the process to redefine the goals of the neighborhood traffic management program about nine months ago.
- A consultant was hired and as part of that process, they conducted a peer review of cities (Scottsdale, Phoenix and Tucson, as well as two cities outside the state).
- A working group was established.
- Have worked with and updated both the Transportation Commission and Neighborhood Advisory Commission.
- Two public meetings have been held to gather input and comments on the draft manual.
- Working with West Group Research to survey the neighborhoods to identify concerns.
- Incorporating measures to help with potential construction impacts.

Councilmember Arredondo asked for an update on how many transit shelters have been built and how many are being built per year.

DIRECTION: Staff was directed to provide an update on status of transit shelters.

Agenda Item 9 – Human Services – Needs, Programs, Emerging Trends

7-01

Kate Hanley summarized the agency review process.

10-13-07

- The 24-member committee will meet this Thursday to bring together all recommendations of the subcommittees. About 40 non-profit agencies submitted 57

proposals. Initial requests this year totaled over \$1.6M, about \$400K above what was allocated last year with the supplemental that was granted.

- The process has been improved and technological advances available through the partnership with United Way are being used.
- Working with Chandler and Gilbert to provide services.
- Community volunteers have been solicited. This year, City employees again helped serve and it helped ensure the programs are integrating with the services the City is operating to avoid duplication.
- Would like to bring the final recommendations to the committee in late March.
- Base of available resources needs to be broadened. Dollars have been drying up. Lucky to have a City with strong support for these kinds of services. In the future, it can't be exclusively the City.
- Tempe Community Foundation is being kicked off and it will be brought to full Council.

Ms. Hanley continued that the tax credit program has been open three Saturdays and served 40 families the first Saturday, 69 the second, and 75 the third. It is exceeding their benchmark. The average additional refund is \$1400. This amount provides the opportunity to talk about programs for self-sufficiency and budgeting which could provide a lift out of poverty.

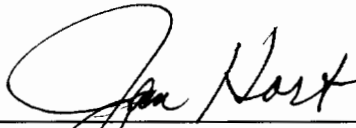
Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items

- **Discussion of Code Enforcement in Trailer Parks**
- **Presentation on the good things the Police Department does (Chief Ryff)**
- **Update on the progress of the proposed fire station in South Tempe**
- **Update on the HAWK pedestrian-crossing system**
- **Update on status of transit shelters**

There will be no committee meeting in March. The next meeting will be on April 10th.

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Prepared by: Connie Krosschell
Reviewed by: Elizabeth Thomas



Jan Hort
City Clerk